

## SENATE RESOLUTION 95

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 95, a resolution designating August 16, 1997, as "National Airborne Day."

## SENATE RESOLUTION 189

At the request of Mr. TORRICELLI, the name of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 189, a resolution honoring the 150th anniversary of the United States Women's Rights Movement that was initiated by the 1848 Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York, and calling for a national celebration of women's rights in 1998.

## AMENDMENT NO. 3354

At the request of Mr. DEWINE the names of the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SESSIONS], the Senator from Michigan [Mr. ABRAHAM], and the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3354 proposed to S. 2312, an original bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 3357

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON the names of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT], the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAU], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. SHELBY], and the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3357 proposed to S. 2312, an original bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 259—DESIGNATING "NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK"

Mr. THURMOND submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

## S. RES. 259

Whereas there are 104 historically black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas black colleges and universities provide the quality education so essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in American history;

Whereas black colleges and universities have allowed many underprivileged students to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 20, 1998, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week"; and

(2) requests that the President of the United States issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically black colleges and universities in the United States.

• Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit today a Senate Resolution which authorizes and requests the President to designate the week beginning September 20, 1998, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week."

It is my privilege to sponsor this legislation for the thirteenth time honoring the Historically Black Colleges of our Country.

Eight of the 104 Historically Black Colleges, namely Allen University, Benedict College, Claflin College, South Carolina State University, Morris College, Voorhees College, Denmark Technical College, and Clinton Junior College, are located in my home State. These colleges are vital to the higher education system of South Carolina. They have provided thousands of economically disadvantaged young people with the opportunity to obtain a college education.

Mr. President, thousands of young Americans have received quality educations at these 104 schools. These institutions have a long and distinguished history of providing the training necessary for participation in a rapidly changing society. Historically Black Colleges offer our citizens a variety of curricula and programs through which young people develop skills and talents, thereby expanding opportunities for continued social progress.

Mr. President, through passage of this Senate Resolution, Congress can reaffirm its support for Historically Black Colleges, and appropriately recognize their important contributions to our Nation. I look forward to the speedy passage of this Resolution. •

## AMENDMENT SUBMITTED

## TREASURY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

### BROWNBACK (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3359

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. LOTT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. HUTCHINSON) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 2312) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place insert the following:

### SEC. \_\_\_\_ COMBINED RETURN TO WHICH UNMARRIED RATES APPLY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part II of subchapter A of chapter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to income tax returns) is amended by inserting after section 6013 the following new section:

### "SEC. 6013A. COMBINED RETURN WITH SEPARATE RATES.

"(a) GENERAL RULE.—A husband and wife may make a combined return of income taxes under subtitle A under which—

"(1) a separate taxable income is determined for each spouse by applying the rules provided in this section, and

"(2) the tax imposed by section 1 is the aggregate amount resulting from applying the separate rates set forth in section 1(c) to each such taxable income.

"(b) DETERMINATION OF TAXABLE INCOME.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the taxable income for each spouse shall be one-half of the taxable income computed as if the spouses were filing a joint return.

"(2) NONITEMIZERS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), if an election is made not to itemize deductions for any taxable year, the basic standard deduction shall be equal to the amount which is twice the basic standard deduction under section 63(c)(2)(C) for the taxable year.

"(c) TREATMENT OF CREDITS.—Credits shall be determined (and applied against the joint liability of the couple for tax) as if the spouses had filed a joint return.

"(d) TREATMENT AS JOINT RETURN.—Except as otherwise provided in this section or in the regulations prescribed hereunder, for purposes of this title (other than sections 1 and 63(c)) a combined return under this section shall be treated as a joint return.

"(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this section."

(b) UNMARRIED RATE MADE APPLICABLE.—So much of subsection (c) of section 1 of such Code as precedes the table is amended to read as follows:

"(c) SEPARATE OR UNMARRIED RETURN RATE.—There is hereby imposed on the taxable income of every individual (other than a married individual (as defined in section 7703) filing a joint return or a separate return, a surviving spouse as defined in section 2(a), or a head of household as defined in section 2(b)) a tax determined in accordance with the following table:"

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part II of subchapter A of chapter 61 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6013 the following:

"Sec. 6013A. Combined return with separate rates."

(d) BUDGET DIRECTIVE.—The members of the conference on the congressional budget resolution for fiscal year 1999 shall provide in the conference report sufficient spending reductions to offset the reduced revenues received by the United States Treasury resulting from the amendments made by this section.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

## FAIRCLOTH AMENDMENT NO. 3360

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. FAIRCLOTH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 2312, supra; as follows: